

By: Warren Rothe

Many of you know Mrs. Candela. She is a technology teacher at LSHS.

Her room is right there! Has anyone had her as a teacher before?

Mrs. Candela is a graduate of Central Michigan University. She holds a major in Business Teacher Education, a minor in English, and a Masters in educational technology.

A leader is trustworthy. Some characteristics of trustworthiness include being honest & upfront. This reminds me of the first day I met her. She spent the first day of class telling us exactly what to expect. She didn't sugar-coat anything, and told us what we were going to do; she made sure we knew what we were getting into. This upfront honesty is an essential part of being a leader. Employees & students perform better when they know what is expected of them.

Another trait a leader must have is respect. Respect is something you earn, not something you are entitled to. A leader who is respected is one who people enjoy working for. Mrs. Candela personifies respect. She is a positive and upbeat person who cares for her students. Her unique personality commands the respect of her students. They respect her, and she respects them.

A leader must be responsible. They must lead with the best of their ability, and show a great deal of self control. Mrs. Candela was awarded the title of best technology teacher for 2011. In addition to this, 11 out of 24 finalists in a recent multi-county web-design competition were her students. This proves how she is responsible, and takes her job very seriously. She also passes the "best you can do attitude" down to her students. A responsible leader is an effective leader.

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Being fair does not mean everything is equal. Rather, fairness means you play by the rules and keep an eye and ear open to others. Mrs. Candela does not bend or break the rules. She demands original work, and does not tolerate cheating. She provides the same pass-or-fail opportunity to each student. She also listens to their input, and takes their comments to heart. She also believes in second chances. If something doesn't work the first time, she will let her student try again.

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Leaders (especially high school teachers) must be caring individuals. Students perform better when they know their teacher cares about them. Mrs. Candela makes sure that every student knows she wants them to be successful. She is kind, and helps her students when they ask for it. She loves her job and takes pride in her student's accomplishments.

The final pillar of character is citizenship. Normally, citizenship means you are patriotic and support your country. In Mrs. Candela's case, she is patriotic about the school she works for. She loves her job, and is proud of her position as a technology teacher. She respects the environment and enforces the rules. She shows great pride in her work, and is the perfect example of a perfect teacher.

In summation, Mrs. Candela is an effective and ideal leader. Leaders are not born, they are created through trial and error. Leadership skills are not taught in a classroom. Instead, they are earned through experience and hard work. It is ~~only~~ ~~through~~ perseverance, and experimentation that make a leader who they are. We can study past leaders as much as we want, but in the end it is experience that determines the quality of a leader.

